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PATENT
Customer No.: 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04284.0845-05

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of:

U.S. Patent No.: 6,145,023

Inventor: Hiroshi Iwasaki

Issued: November 7, 2000

Serial No.: 09/826,896

Filed: April 6, 2001

For: INFORMATION STORAGE AND
INFORMATION PROCESSING
SYSTEM UTILIZING STATE-
DESIGNATING MEMBER PROVIDED)
ON SUPPORTING CARD SURFACE)
WHICH PRODUCES WRITE-)
PERMITTING OR WRITE-)
INHIBITING STATE)

Group Art Unit:2812

Examiner: Perveen

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF HIROSHI IWASAKI

I, Hiroshi Iwasaki, hereby declare that:

1. My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below under my name.
2. I believe that U.S. Patent No. 6,145,023 is partially inoperative by reason of having claimed less than I had a right to claim. Independent claim 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,145,023 recites "a state-designating member for designating a state in which writing of

information to the storage medium is prohibited is provided, and wherein a write-permitting or a write-inhibiting signal is produced.” Because claim 8 recites that a write-permitting signal is produced, claim 8 should also recite designating a state in which writing of information is permitted. Independent claim 8 has been amended to correct this error.

3. In my March 7, 2001, declaration I stated that I believed that “U.S. Patent No. 6,145,023 is partially inoperative by reason of my having claimed less than I had a right to claim.

U.S. Patent No. 6,145,023 includes four (4) independent claims. Independent claim 1 recites ‘storage medium means,’ a ‘state-designating conductive member’ and that ‘a write-permitting or a write-inhibiting signal is produced by said state-designating conductive member.’ The state-designating conductive member of the invention does not ‘produce’ any signal. Instead, it indicates a state of the claimed storage medium means.” I understood that the independent claims of the ‘023 patent could potentially be interpreted in a manner inconsistent with the ‘023 patent specification. That is, I understood that the claimed state-designating conductive member of claim 1 does not produce any signal as claim 1 could be interpreted.

4. By the Amendment accompanying this Supplemental Declaration, claim 1 has been amended to recite that “a write-permitting or a write-inhibiting signal is produced by virtue of a presence of said state-designating conductive member, and wherein the produced write-permitting or write-inhibiting signal identifies a state of the storage medium means.” This claim amendment makes explicit what was implicit in claim 1, avoids any possibility that claim 1 will be interpreted in a manner inconsistent with the patent specification, and insures that claim 1 will be given its appropriate scope.

5. All errors being corrected in the reissue application up to the time of filing the present Supplemental Declaration arose without any deceptive intention on my part.

6. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Hiroshi Iwasaki
Hiroshi Iwasaki

Date: March 28, 2002

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